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SHARP Summit highlights Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Month

By CECOM Public Affairs staff

Leaders from the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's (CECOM) headquarters, Logistics and Readiness Center, and Software Engineering Center participated in Aberdeen Proving Ground's first leadership summit for sexual harassment/assault response and prevention (SHARP) April 16.

This one-day event, themed "Achieving Cultural Change: Strengthening Trust, and Supporting Victims," served as a forum for Aberdeen Proving Ground leaders and local community authorities to raise awareness and understanding of the systemic issues now being addressed in the Army as it relates to this critical issue. This event took place as a highlight of Sexual Assault Prevention Month aimed at promoting the prevention of sexual harassment and assault incidences for CECOM and all of the commands on the installation.

Ms. Carolyn Collins, deputy director for the Army's SHARP program, served as the keynote speaker for the event. Collins first emphasized the need for continued vigilance about SHARP. "The Army accounts for the largest number of sexual assaults in the DoD" she explained. She also said the reporting of sexual assaults grew "significantly higher" in fiscal 2013 from fiscal 2012. The reporting rate grew 51 percent in that year from 1,423 reported assaults to more than 2,100.

She described five lines of effort that are a part of the Army's SHARP program to achieve a

cover story continued on page 3

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To find the answer, go to page 28.

Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis J. Dent

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Recent, tragic events that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, and the Washington Navy Yard, in our nation's capital, solidify the need for us to remain ready and responsive against the threat of violence from an active shooter scenario. Our thoughts and prayers go to each victim and family member involved in those tragedies. I know that all of us are grateful that our CECOM team at Hood are safe. However, these incidents emphasize the need for preparedness in case someone inflicts this same senseless violence again. And, it can happen, anywhere and at anytime.

An active shooter incident involves the intentional, random or systematic shooting of multiple victims in which the shooter's objective is to kill and seriously injure as many people as possible. An active shooter may be a current or former employee, either government or contractor. This kind of violence has intended targets, but often the shooter will accept targets of opportunity. They progress through the area until they encounter law enforcement or some other obstacle that can stop them.

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) takes these threats very seriously and we have implemented preventative measures to safeguard our Soldiers and families, civilians, and contractors. We require that every employee receives active shooter refresher training each year. Each installation has their own unique requirements and preparedness plans in place for an active shooter scenario and we encourage participation from all personnel. At Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., where CECOM is the senior command, we have direct roles to play in the planning and execution of the training. At other installations where we are not the senior command, such as Forts Lee, Hood, Huachuca, we must actively engage in the refresher training each year and encourage our teammates to participate in the respective installation active shooter training events. No matter how large or small our footprint is on an installation, we must validate our force protection procedures and response plans.

It is imperative that everyone has a plan of action within their office and organization on how to respond to an active shooter situation.

Do you know what to do? Where your rally points are? Where will you shelter in place if a shooter comes in to your building?

The number one thing to remember if you find yourself involved in such a scenario is to remain calm. Try to determine the best possible method to protect your life using the principles of "Take cover, Call for help, Don't try to be a hero." Determine if there is an accessible escape route. Leave all your belongings and evacuate the area. If escape is not possible, proceed to a room that can be locked and is not in the line of sight of the shooter. Secure the room and call 911. If you are in an open space, seek cover and put a barrier between yourself and the shooter. As a last resort and only if you are in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the shooter. Follow the instructions of law enforcement once they arrive on the scene.

Please check with your supervisor and your organization's security officers for further information on preparedness plans.

Please visit the websites below for more information on active shooter awareness and preparedness as well as links for counseling.

We are counting on you to be our first line of defense. Your vigilance may help save lives!

Army Strong!

Resources:

- The CECOM SharePoint site with resources on active shooter preparedness.
  https://cecom.aep.army.mil/cecom/home/ActvShooter/default.aspx
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0
- A list of websites to assist in the aftermath of a crisis.
  http://www.dodlive.mil/index.php/2014/04/ft-hood-crisis-survivor-resources/

cultural change regarding SHARP: prevention, investigation, accountability, advocacy, and assessment. Prevention involves creating an environment of mutual respect and trust where sexual assault is not tolerated. Investigative resources and training for prosecutors and criminal investigation agents, she said, will yield timely and accurate results. Accountability tactics such as revised policies and rigorous screening for positions of trust will assure perpetrators and chains of command are held appropriately accountable for prevention or, as necessary, prosecution. Improved advocacy programs will help instill confidence in the Army's processes and inspires victims to report assaults.

Collins said, "There are a great number of changes in the advocacy line of efforts with a lot of growth."

As for assessment, there have been meaningful systems of evaluation created to include a Department of the Army Inspector General inspection which assessed SHARP programs from 2013-14.

Collins closed her presentation with a briefing slide that simply summarized the Army's initiatives, "Maintain the momentum."

The summit also included updates from experts from the inspector general, legal and chaplain services regarding their roles in responding to a sexual harassment or assault issue. There was also a panel of representatives from the local communities' sexual assault response organizations.

The event was hosted by Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, commanding general of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, and Gary Martin, deputy to the commanding general for the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, responds to a question from Aberdeen Proving Ground senior leaders and managers during a question and answer session at the 2014 APG Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Summit, April 16 at Aberdeen Proving Ground-South. The summit provided a forum where senior APG leaders exchange ideas, best practices and discuss the way ahead to encourage reporting practices and spark a culture change of trust that holds offenders accountable for sexual harassment and assault offenses. (Photo by Sean Kief, APG Garrison)

LRC Director highlights current priorities and strategic opportunities

By CECOM Public Affairs staff

Lane Collie, director of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's Logistics and Readiness Center (LRC), addressed the membership of the Aberdeen, Md., Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army at its monthly professional development forum and general meeting March 18.

Collie discussed current logistics and sustainment issues, priorities and opportunities and described the LRC role within the C4ISR Center of Excellence.

The LRC provides global logistics support for C4ISR (command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance) systems and equipment through rapid acquisition, maintenance, production, fielding, new equipment training, operations and sustainment in support of the Army, the joint warfighter and coalition partners. To accomplish this mission, the LRC works closely with the acquisition community to include seven Program Executive Offices (PEOs): Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (IEW&S); Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (C3T); Enterprise Information Systems (EIS); Aviation; Missiles & Space; Soldier; and Combat Support and Combat Service Support (CS&CSS).

In describing the LRC's interaction with PEOs, Collie shared that, "PEO Aviation drives the LRC's working capital demand in terms of funding, while PEO Soldier generates the highest working capital demand in terms of quantities across the major capabilities." These major capabilities include aviation, battle space awareness, battle command transport networks and field logistics.

Staff at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., provide maintenance on the TPQ-36 Firefinder Radar System. The Firefinder is a system that through modernization will decrease the amount of labor performed by the depot. Credit: U.S. Army photo by Tobyhanna Army Depot

In addition to working with PEO partners, the LRC also has an industrial base responsibility. Collie said he wants to ensure and sustain the health of the commercial and organic industrial base markets and infrastructures in direct support of C4ISR programs. He said that the legislatively-required, fifty-fifty split of organic and commercial sustainment capabilities means a meshing of commercial and industrial base strategies. "It's a tough balancing act that will get harder and harder as money goes down," he explained. The LRC supports the Tobyhanna Army Depot, the organic industrial base for C4ISR, as well as five commercial industrial base sectors: sensors, tactical communications, electro-optics, power sources and information technology. He cited the example of the Firefinder radar system that, through modernization, will replace the Q36 and Q37 radars with the Q53 radar. This modernization will decrease the Tobyhanna's workload by 55,000 direct labor hours annually starting in 2020.

Collie also described one of the LRC's most pressing priorities -- C4ISR Field Support Rightsizing. In support of the initiative to "rightsize" field support, Collie and the LRC have collaborated with the partners of the C4ISR Center

of Excellence in support of the Army's "Reinvesting in Soldiers" approach in which Soldiers are the primary operators and maintainers of C4ISR equipment at the unit level. Rather than relying on support personnel for all C4ISR equipment issues, the C4ISR Center of Excellence has designed a four-tiered support structure that will handle different levels of complexity for Soldiers at the unit level. Tier 0 is simply having Soldiers operate and maintain their own equipment. Tier 1 still includes multifunctional support personnel located with the units at installations. This tier is characterized by today's Logistics Assistance Representatives. Tier 2 support is system-specific and is designed to escalate issues or problems beyond the knowledge at the field level. Experts based at regional hubs cover a designated geographic area minimizing response time. Tier 3 provides the most involved level of service because issues must be addressed by the original equipment manufacturer in order to be resolved.

The Field Support team tested this structure at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and the National Training Center (NTC), and the results have been dramatic he said. "In the pilot exercises with JRTC and NTC, analysis of trouble ticket resolution data showed that 79 percent of all issues were training-related and 95 percent of tickets were Soldier-level tasks (Tier 0-1). This data-driven approach will ensure that we are making sound decisions, said Collie.

As responsibilities are turned over to the individual Soldier, there is a corresponding effort to reduce the number of Field Support Personnel. In keeping with the collaborative nature of this initiative, the C4ISR Center of Excellence has coordinated closely with U.S. Forces Command for a phased approach through Fiscal Year (FY)16. To date, there has been a reduction of 361 C4ISR field support personnel and units have not experienced any drops in unit readiness or weapon system availability due to this effort, according to Collie.

He also presented three strategic opportunities for contractor support that will be released during FY14. The first was a $20 million award for quick reaction capability sustainment support for Joint Personnel Identification Systems. This contract will provide worldwide support for currently deployed biometric tactical collection equipment from the Program Manager for Joint Personnel Identification. Second, he described an $8-12 million contract for life cycle logistics strategic initiatives support, requiring improvements and optimization for a wide range of business processes, procedures and sustainment strategies, including risk assessments, cost analysis, supply chain and maintenance planning. The third contract, for Tactical Power Supplies, is a five-year, firm-fixed price, indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract to procure PP-6224D/U and PP2953E/U tactical power supplies and an associated electronic technical/repair manual. The award is projected from a minimum of $250,000 to a ceiling of $66 million and would be a 100 percent small business set-a-side.

In closing, Collie shared three other "Hot Topics" that the LRC is focused on in addition to the Field Support Rightsizing initiative: Operation Enduring Freedom drawdown, workforce reshaping, and reinvesting in civilian personnel. In reference to the drawdown, Collie said "Team C4ISR will be among the last to leave Afghanistan because we support the sensors systems that provide force protection, systems like BETSS-C and RAID." As for the workforce, Collie is working both reshaping and professional development initiatives to increase efficiency and build a bench to face the challenges of the future. "We have a generation of a workforce who only knows supplemental funding. We are returning to an era where availability of resources will be a challenge all unto itself."

Staff from the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's Logistics and Readiness Center process equipment to leave the theater of operations through the retrograde yard in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Credit: U.S. Army photo by the Logistics and Readiness Center

SEC-Lee showcases capabilities and workforce to Command Sgt Maj. Sims during site visit

By Marissa Anderson, CECOM Public Affairs

Fort Lee, Va. – Paul D. Bedard (right), deputy systems manager, Property Book Unit Supply Enhanced System (PBUSE) briefs Command Sergeant Major James K.Sims, U.S. Army Materiel Command and Command Sergeant Major Terry E.Parham Sr., Combined Arms Support Command, on the PBUSE system on March 13, 2014. Also pictured, Erik J. Scott (left), system manager, Standard Army Maintenance System- Enhanced and Terry R. Michael, item manager, Unit Level Logistics System-Aviation.

The senior enlisted adviser for the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) visited the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's Software Engineering Center workforce at Fort Lee, Va., last month to observe how the organization provides support to the Soldier.

The site visit to the Tactical Logistics Directorate (SEC TLD) by Command Sgt. Maj. James K. Sims was significant because it highlighted the SEC TLD workforce and the current capabilities they provide to the Soldier while in the garrison or in the field environment. Sims is the senior noncommissioned officer within AMC.

"It was a true pleasure to meet Command Sgt. Maj. Sims and have the opportunity to provide him with an overview of our Log IT systems and meet our first class workforce," said Ricky Daniels, director SEC TLD.

Sgt. Maj. Terry E. Parham Sr., command sergeant major, U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command, also attended the site visit.

Sims and Parham participated in briefings and a walk-thru tour of the SEC TLD facility. The informational briefings described the processes of hardware life cycle replacement and software interim change packages to the field; customer support to the field utilizing the structured tier 1-3 levels of support to Soldiers and help desk procedures; overviews of the Log IT systems and Property Book Unit Supply Enhanced system.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Sims' visit enabled him to meet the workforce and learn more about the Army's logistics systems," said Edward (Ned) Bothe, deputy director, SEC TLD. "CSM Sims adjusted his schedule to spend more time thanking CECOM SEC employees for the work they do daily for the Soldier."

CECOM unleashes the Dragon

By Pamela Leigh, CECOM Public Affairs

Dragon University, the Communications-Electronics Command's (CECOM) newest Signal University, unofficially opened its doors to students on April 1, 2014, at Fort Bragg, N.C.

The CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center (LRC) led with a Wideband Tactical Radio (AN/PRC 117G) course for their soft open. The XVIII Airborne Corps' return from deployment will trigger the formal stand-up of the training center.

The university program was established by the LRC to provide Signal Soldiers and civilians worldwide the opportunity to receive up-to-date training and skills management necessary to maintain occupational specialty success; a methodology Dragon University will also adhere to.

"Our expectations are to make Fort Bragg Soldiers the best communicators in the Army," said Stan Bonner, Signal University program lead for CECOM's LRC. "We hope to train Soldiers who will go back to their units and share what they have learned."

University courses offered at the Fort Bragg facility will depend on unit requirements. According to Bonner, the LRC has the capability to provide a variety of courses, but actual instruction received on site will vary in accordance with the unit. Units also have the opportunity to request or create additional courses based on need.

"An example of this (training request) would be the cyber-digital Master Gunner course that was requested by CIO/G6," said Bonner. We got the requirement from the unit to and created courseware and labs to meet the specific necessity…When units need a more specialized course or one that is not available on location, we reach out to other CECOM assets and see if we have the means to conduct it."

The LRC is currently in the process of hiring two on-site instructors with expertise in Warfighter Information Network-Tactical (WIN-T) communications. In the interim, training personnel from headquarters and other university locations will be providing instruction.

Signal Universities proffer wide range of instruction to their students to include Department of Defense 8570 courses, theatre provided equipment and WIN-T. According to Bonner, with the ever-changing signal environment, the Signal universities contribute in maintaining a technically proficient warfighter.

The LRC's Signal university program includes: Courage University at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; Team Bliss Signal Center of Excellence at Fort Bliss, Texas; Screaming Eagle University at Fort Campbell, Ky.; Ironhorse University at Fort Carson, Colo.; IIIrd Corps' Signal University at Fort Hood, Texas; United States Army Intelligence Center of Excellence at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Danger's Voice Signal University at Fort Riley, Kan.; Warrior University at JRTC Fort Polk, La.; and the Champion Institute of Technology in Afghanistan.

Sgt. Maj. Douglas C. Lynch, assistant chief of staff G-6, 82nd Airborne Division, speaks to students during an After Action Review of the first class held at the Communications-Electronics Command's newest signal university in Fort Bragg, N.C., on April 4, 2014.

The training center, named Dragon University, unofficially opened its doors on April 1, 2014, by conducting a Wideband Tactical Radio (AN/PRC 117G) course to Signal Soldiers on site. The XVIII Airborne Corps' return from deployment will trigger the formal stand-up of the university. The signal university program was established by CECOM's Logistics and Readiness Center to provide Signal Soldiers and civilians worldwide the opportunity to receive up-to-date training and skills management necessary to maintain occupational specialty success. (Official Army photo by Michael J. Reynaud, CECOM)

William Germek, an electronics mechanic leader at Tobyhanna Army Depot, disassembles a Chinook helicopter's T-55 engine Electronic Control Unit to replace a circuit card assembly and prepare the unit for mechanical overhaul inspection.

Tobyhanna begins helicopter repair mission

By Justin Eimers, Tobyhanna Army Depot

Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., has been chosen as the repair source for a component of the Army's largest helicopter, the CH-47 Chinook, based on the installation's electronics expertise.

Technicians have begun repairing the Chinook T-55 Electronic Control Units (ECUs). The three-tier program supports the ECUs, which are built for the T-55 engine and replaces the Chinook digital control unit.

Depot ECU support includes test and inspect, conversion, and repair and overhaul programs. During testing and inspection, the units are inducted and run through a room temperature test to screen for any faults or failures. Units that successfully pass inspection move on to conversion where they receive upgraded software prior to a full mechanical inspection. Defective units receive upgraded software and hardware, and are fully disassembled and mechanically inspected. Parts are replaced, the unit reassembled, tested and sent for final inspection.

Nearly $1.2 million in funds have been authorized for all three phases of the program in fiscal year 2014, with about 96 percent of that for the repair and overhaul program.

Christopher Meyers, chief of the depot's Airborne Communications/Instrument Branch, described how the program not only serves a critical function but also opens the door to future workloads.

"This mission is important because it is supporting the current sustainment and modernization of our military's Chinook helicopters, which are scheduled to remain in the fleet through 2038," he said.

"Our support for ECUs can open the door for additional workload as we display and improve our capability. It also gives us the opportunity to expand our support to similar units in other aircraft."

Since the depot is an AS9100/9110 Aerospace Certified installation, the ECU program is recognized as one that demonstrates effective quality management resulting in few defective products, less rework and a decrease in the cost of production. Electronics Mechanic Michael Grunza said the certification will give customers confidence in Tobyhanna ECU repairs.

"As an installation certified under AS9100/9110 and ISO 9001 standards, we will receive more exposure within the aerospace market," he said. "In turn, it could give us more workload while giving our customers a guarantee of a quality product."

Aerospace Standard 9100/9110 and ISO 9001 ensure that the depot's products and services consistently meet high standards of quality agreed upon by companies worldwide, and that quality is consistently improved.

Commander's Risk Reduction Dashboard Proof of Concept rolled out to pilot group

By Crystal Chadwick, Software Engineering Center

In January, the U.S. Army's Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) released the Commander's Risk Reduction Dashboard (CRRD) Proof of Concept (PoC) into the production environment where it became accessible to a group of pilot users.

CECOM's Software Engineering Center (SEC) developed the dashboard as a result of the Headquarters Department of the Army (HQDA) G-1 requirement to create a tool to help commanders identify Soldiers with high risk profiles. The dashboard analyzes unit-level status and collective Soldier high risk behavior while reporting prevention and intervention activities.

This concept provides a unique capability to battalion and company commanders allowing multiple risk factors from numerous data sources to be viewed in one location. Additionally, it offers data at the individual Soldier-level, as opposed to unit-level statistics.

The CRRD was developed as a result of the Army Health Promotion Risk Reduction Suicide Prevention Report 2010, a Vice Chief of Staff of the Army initiative. The report was the result of a high rate of both suicides and deaths related to high risk behaviors in the total Army in 2009.

"We want to help the Army reduce the number of suicides among Soldiers," said Michelle Dirner, acting deputy director, Enterprise Solutions Directorate, CECOM SEC. "We believe that the CRRD can do that by providing commanders the information they need to recognize early warning signs and proactively engage in intervention activities."

CECOM SEC coordinated with over 30 Army and Department of Defense (DoD) Authoritative Data Sources (ADS) in defining more than 13,000 data elements. Those data elements were documented and standardized in data dictionaries which make them understandable and reusable for future efforts. CECOM SEC

used these dictionaries to quickly identify data required for the CRRD proof of PoC. The ADS Subject Matter Experts previously identified during the Health Promotion Risk Reduction (HPRR) effort, rapidly defined and documented the requirements.

In addition to creating a common data understanding within the HPRR community, the CECOM SEC team defined an Information Exchange Specification and established a Service Orientated Architecture to support a net-centric environment. The net-centric environment was used to provide ADS data to the U.S. Army Public Health Command for their enterprise-wide, population-based surveillance of Army suicide incidents. The CRRD full solution will leverage lessons learned from the HPRR efforts and will take full advantage of the data sharing benefits, improving the speed and execution of decision making and allowing commanders to take a proactive approach in saving Soldiers' lives.

This initial release of the CRRD PoC is a culmination of a year's worth of effort, including the technical and programmatic challenges associated with releasing a web application; managing privacy, health, and safety data; and negotiating Data Use Agreements with data providers throughout the Army. The release into the production environment was successful, the overall feedback has been positive, and Army leadership continues to support the strategy ahead.

Foreign liaison officers visit ISEC, meet senior leaders

By Maranda Flynn, Fort Huachuca Scout staff

Photo Credit: Maranda Flynn

From left, Commander of the U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command, Col. Patrick Kerr, explains the purpose and the functions of the Unified Capabilities Lab to Sgt. Maj. Hans-Joerg Fischer, Lt. Col. Hans-Joerg Trossen, Lt. Col. Yannick LeGrand and Lt. Col. Seunghoon Lee, foreign liaison officers assigned to Fort Huachuca, during a tour of ISEC, Feb. 26

During a visit to the U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command (ISEC) four foreign liaison officers assigned to the U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence and Fort Huachuca, toured the facilities and met with ISEC senior leadership and staff on Feb. 26.

Lt. Col. Seunghoon Lee, Korea, Lt. Col. Yannick LeGrand, France, Lt. Col. Hans-Joerg Trossen, Germany, and Sgt. Maj. Hans-Joerg Fischer, Germany, serve as the liaison between their country's armies and the U.S. Army. For the four officers, this was their first visit to the ISEC. Master Sgt. Christopher Paluzzi, senior signal operations noncommissioned officer, ISEC, explained that the visit was requested by Col. Patrick Kerr, ISEC commander, as a form of community outreach and display of ISEC capabilities.

Kerr and Command Sgt. Maj. Brenda Kadet, ISEC, and the group were briefed by Albert Rivera, ISEC technical director at the Technology Integration Center (TIC). Rivera briefed the group on ISEC, its organizational structure and its different missions. He explained the current projects underway in the main areas such as infrastructure, enterprise, information assurance and testing.

Following the presentation, Janet Forbes, a senior systems engineer, led the officers on a walking tour of the TIC, stopping in the Wireless Lab and the Unified Capabilities Lab to receive a first-hand view of the testing process.

At the headquarters building, Kerr hosted a group lunch luncheon and presented each officer with a letter of appreciation for their visit and an ISEC coin.

"This simple, yet important, exchange of information with professional diplomats was long overdue," Kerr said. "The opportunity to host our international friends at ISEC was a great experience had by all that we plan to cultivate."

The officers also appreciated ISEC's hospitality.

Lee explained that he enjoyed the overview brief which provided such an abundance of useful information. "To me, it was a fresh idea that a commercial concept was and could be applied to a military unit and be successful. And of course, that the majority was Civilian staff," Lee said. "This could be a good example of cooperation between the military and industry."

This initial release of the CRRD PoC is a culmination of a year's worth of effort, including the technical and programmatic challenges associated with releasing a web application; managing privacy, health, and safety data; and negotiating Data Use Agreements with data providers throughout the Army. The release into the production environment was successful, the overall feedback has been positive, and Army leadership continues to support the strategy ahead.

CECOM IUID team makes their mark

By Pamela Leigh, CECOM Public Affairs

The sergeant individually removes each item from its home in the musty warehouse. His Soldiers follow suit and stiffly lug out boxes of night vision goggles toward the team on hand to inspect the equipment.

This type of systematic attention to detail is a patient man's game; agonizingly slow, but imperative to an overarching mission. For the U.S. Army Communications - Electronics Command Item Unique Identification (IUID) office, helmed by Team Lead Jacob Dozier Jr., it's how everyday business is conducted.

Dozier and his team provide support to local commanders by providing training on these types of tedious tasks, like unit level marking. On this occasion, the 20th CBRNE Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive) contacted the team for assistance with unit level marking. Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) mandated that all equipment unmarked prior to 2004, known as legacy equipment, must be marked and entered into the Department of Defense (DoD) IUID registry by 2015.

According to Dozier, equipment manufactured for the DoD after 2004 is automatically IUID marked and scanned into the registry. Every time the equipment receives maintenance, it is entered into the system as a lifecycle event. This allows each piece of equipment to be individually tracked and monitored until it is retired and removed from the system. Unfortunately, while still functional, legacy equipment may not possess the required IUID marking. In turn, HQDA tasked the Army Materiel Command to develop unit-level marking in an effort to ensure all inventoried items are marked and entered into the registry.

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. (March 13, 2014) – Specialist Marcus Matthews, unit supply specialist, 20th CBRNE Command, reads information from a set of night vision goggles to Brian Breitigan, Communications–Electronics Command's Item Unique Identification (IUID) Team on March 13, 2014. The CECOM IUID team was asked to provide unit level marking training to 20th CBRNE Command Soldiers and civilians. During this training exercise, the IUID team demonstrated data cleansing; the process of figuring out what equipment has already been marked, what hasn't and whether it matches the unit's property book.

For commanders with warehouses stacked floor to ceiling with IUID equipment, this could be a daunting task. However, the expertise of Dozier's team and the methodology of their attack seemingly reduce the enormity of this challenge. The team's intent is to train the unit on how to properly conduct these operations. In this scenario, they train the Soldiers about data cleansing; the process of figuring out what's already been marked, what hasn't and whether it matches the property book.

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"We start by going through the unit's property book," said Dozier. "That's what the unit has to go by and everything that's on that list they have to actually mark. Some of it may already be marked, but they need to annotate that that they are."

The night vision goggles are methodically placed on six-foot tables and CECOM's IUID Team begins the data-cleansing process. Using a magnifying glass to assist, Roxanna Brown-Mello, the IUID coordinator, reads off each individual bar code to Brian Breitigan, a logistics management specialist, who enters and later scans them in the system. The team's Nathanial Robinson, also a logistics management specialist and Ryan Adams, the IUID Team's logistics data specialist, uniformly repack the goggles after each entry. Throughout the process, Dozier is instructing and guiding the 20th CBRNE Command Soldiers on the process before slowly integrating them into the operation. After an hour, the IUID team has stepped back from the table and moved into a mentoring role for the remainder of the training. The Soldiers continue the assembly line operation, pausing sporadically with questions about information that fail to marry together in the registry.

"It's not a difficult process, it's just systematic," said Dozier. "This isn't the type of work that you want to have to go back and redo. So it's about providing a commander with the best mechanism to conduct the unit level marking in a timely and efficient manner."

Dozier and his team provide IUID unit level marking training and support to commands at both Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Area operations.

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. (March 13, 2014) – Communications-Electronics Command's Item Unique Identification (IUID) Team Lead Jacob Dozier (center left) provides instruction to 20th CBRNE Command's Staff Sgt. Tshombe Choice (far right), supply noncommissioned officer; Francine Shultz (center right), supply technician and Spc. Marcus Matthews, unit supply specialist during unit level marking training on March 13, 2014. The CECOM IUID team was asked to provide unit level marking training to 20th CBRNE Command Soldiers and civilians. During this training exercise, the IUID team demonstrated data cleansing; the process of figuring out what equipment has already been marked, what hasn't and whether it matches the unit's property book.

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. (March 13, 2014) – Specialist Marcus Matthews, unit supply specialist, 20th CBRNE Command, scans information from a set of night vision goggles on March 13, 2014. The CECOM IUID team was asked to provide unit level marking training to 20th CBRNE Command Soldiers and civilians. During this training exercise, the IUID team demonstrated data cleansing; the process of figuring out what equipment has already been marked, what hasn't and whether it matches the unit's property book.

PROVIDING THE

CRITICAL LINK

Photo Credit: Photo illustration by Peggy Frierson

Information Systems Engineering Command (ISEC)

LAN Upgrades at Army Depots - ISEC is coordinating with the Army Materiel Command (AMC) and Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., to develop a support plan and cost estimate to provide wireless Local Area Network (LAN) upgrades at 15 AMC Army Depots to support the Logistics Modernization Program (LMP) Increment 2 upgrades. Work at the first three locations, the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center, Illinois, the Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, and the McAlester Army Ammunitions Plant, Okla., is scheduled to be completed this November. Completion of work at the remaining 12 sites is scheduled for October 2015.

Support to Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS) - The ISEC Korea Field Office is providing engineering service support to PEO EIS Product Manager (PdM), Power Projection Enablers (P2E) for the Yongsan Relocation Program in Korea. This support includes the technical review of 127 Corps of Engineers Facility Designs and PdM-P2E Contractor's Information Technology Design documents. These documents will provide the critical designs needed to consolidate and converge data and voice into a single, integrated architecture in the new facilities at Camp Humphreys, South Korea.

Engineering expertise - The Communications-Electronics Command Information Systems Engineering Command is currently supporting the United States Army Corps of Engineers by providing engineering expertise for two new Unified Facilities Guide Specifications (UFGS). The UFGS is a joint effort between the Army, Navy, Air Force, and NASA to provide standardization in military and defense related construction projects. This is significant step forward in unifying construction efforts across the services and other federal agencies.

Logistics and Readiness Center (LRC)

Night Vision Devices -- The LRC and Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., are working together to fabricate test sets for Aviator's Night Vision Devices. The total funding for this fabrication program is $4.8 million for 225 test sets. Delivery is scheduled to begin in October 2014.

Training support: The LRC provided training to 834 soldiers, leading the way in soldier reinvestment by training the Army's C4ISR sustainment military occupational specialties to proficiency.

Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD)

Project Manager (PM) Day - Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., recently hosted a PM Day. The focus of the event was to highlight the status of Program Executive Office Command, Control, Computers-Tactical (PEO C3T) programs, discuss and demonstrate Tobyhanna capabilities, and identify opportunities for joint collaboration between PEO C3T programs and Tobyhanna's organic industrial base capabilities. This is a continuation of efforts across C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance) community to enhance organic industrial base opportunities.

Training Croatian soldiers: TYAD personnel recently conducted operator level training on the Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receiver to soldiers of the Croatian Army in the Republic of Croatia as part of a Department of State Foreign Military Sales case. This training enables our Croatian allies to properly operate and care for the equipment.

story continued on next page

Software Engineering Center (SEC)

Train-the-trainer - CECOM SEC provided Standard Army Maintenance System-Enhanced (SAMS-E) train-the-trainer training to Communications-Electronics Command Logistics Assistance Representatives in Korea, via Defense Connect On-line (DCO). SEC is working in conjunction with Communications-Electronics Command Logistics Assistance Representatives in Korea to provide the Army cost avoidance by eliminating the expense of a mobile training team, while ensuring in country personnel were fully trained to support SAMS – E software deployment. SEC delivered the SAMS-E train-the-trainer training focused on functionality differences between versions and setup instructions via Defense Connect Online, ensuring CECOM Logistics Assistance Representatives in Korea are fully trained on setup and functionality differences between versions. SAMS-E is a mission critical Logistics Information System that replaces and enhances several older legacy systems, ensuring effective maintenance operations while providing a bridging solution between current functionality and the Enterprise Resource Planning solution. In addition to the cost avoidance provided by using DCO to deliver the training, SEC training contributes to reducing help desk calls while keeping the Army Sustainment Command's SAMS-IE deployment schedule on track.

SAMS-E is used in all theaters, supported by CECOM's Logistics Assistance Representatives. LAR Tony Jackson instructs the Army Maintenance Management System clerk, Sgt. Diana McInnis from 557th Maintenance Company, on the Standard Army Maintenance System - Enhanced (SAMS-E) Unit Identification Code (UIC) configuration process at Camp Deh Dadi II in Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan. (Photo US Army)

Software upgrades - SEC is sustaining the Distributed Common Ground System-Army (DCGS-A) Cross-Domain Solution Suite (CDSS) to ensure Warfighters have an accurate common operating picture, while providing the Army licensing cost avoidance.SEC supported the Army intelligence community by installing and testing software upgrades for the DCGS-A CDSS to move large quantities of data effectively and securely between networks at different classification levels. DCGS-A is the Army's premier intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) enterprise for the tasking of sensors, analysis and processing of data, exploitation of data, and dissemination of intelligence (TPED) across all echelons. This software upgrade enables Army intelligence analysts to share critical information to ensure everyone has the same accurate common operation picture across the battlefield. It provides the only method of passing non-U.S. Message Text Format information, including imagery, maps, documents, and eXtensible Markup Language across security boundaries while adding new capabilities for easier user interface. The component software also provides license cost savings by taking advantage of the Army's McAfee enterprise license agreement.

Soldiers who have used the Distributed Common Ground System-Army, both on and off the battlefield, say that with adequate training it's an intelligence game changer.

Radio software upgrades - SEC provided radio software upgrades and assistance to Soldiers in the 2nd Brigade 82nd Airborne Division, providing them enhanced communications capabilities. SEC personnel provided communications support to our Soldiers by performing on site AN/PRC-155 Manpack Radio software upgrades for the 2nd Brigade 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. These upgrades, at the request of Project Manager – Tactical Radios, provided the 82nd ABN Soldiers with enhanced communications capabilities and increased security. SEC installed software functionality upgrades included a High Power Amplifier install; software install (consisting of platform file, Soldier Radio Waveform file, Adaptive Networking Wideband Waveform file, and Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS) file); Crypto Ignition Key install; and Human Machine Interface.

Enterprise Management Decision Support receives *Fed IT Program of the Year Award*

By Steve Ridings, Software Engineering Center

The U.S. Army's Enterprise Management Decision Support (EMDS) system program was recently recognized by FedScoop, a Washington, D.C. information technology and government media company, for the 2013 FedScoop 50 Fed IT (Information Technology) Program of the Year based on cost savings, efficiencies and federal and industry partnerships. Annually, FedScoop recognizes 50 federal IT individuals and programs representing the community's "brightest minds and innovations."

The EMDS system is a Secret Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet), web-enabled, IT solution that provides Army senior decision makers and staff officers dashboard displays of readiness, resourcing, and Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) data from multiple source systems, unified through organizationally-defined business rules.

"Recognition as a FedScoop 50 winner is an immense honor for our team," said Lt. Col. Bobby Saxon, division chief and program director of PM EMDS. "I'm extremely proud of the team's effort to simplify data access and understanding through Big Data Visualization and Predictive Analytics."

This latest achievement was truly a team effort, Saxon said, adding that it would not have been possible without the support of industry partners and Army senior leaders.

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's (CECOM) Software Engineering Center (SEC) Enterprise Services Directorate Data Services Division (DSD) has worked closely over the past two and a half years in supporting the Program Management Office (PMO), EMDS System. The EMDS PMO and SEC leadership have successfully developed a leading edge solution that integrates data from approximately two dozen disparate readiness and resourcing systems, facilitating Army planning and decision making by providing a holistic view of Army readiness.

Specialists maintain these precise, aggregate data source systems for action officers, commanders, combatant commanders and operation planners to obtain an in-depth knowledge of Army readiness, current and future unit force structure and deployment plans; along with current and predicted personnel, logistics and training status. EMDS automates this business logic and analysis network, transforming the raw source data into actionable and real-world applicable decision support information.

EMDS provides Army enterprise leaders instant visibility on vulnerabilities so decisive corrections and decisions can be made from data analysis. It offers leadership the ability to assess the Army's institutional risk for executing its mission, based on available resources and enabling Strategic Readiness reporting at leadership forums.

EMDS provides Team C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance) visibility of the current and future Active, Army National Guard, and Army Reserve force structure so that C4ISR Program Executive Officers and Program Managers, the Logistics and Readiness Center, the SEC, and other CECOM organizations can program and execute C4ISR new equipment fieldings, reset, and retrograde support operations and optimize sustainment support while reducing the contractor Field Support Representative worldwide footprint. EMDS gives users the ability to view the Army Force Generating model in an easy to use, intuitive manner, easily accessing the current readiness of all units in the force and using the system's advance search capability to perform analyses to support CECOM mission requirements.

Mechanics, engineers earn Teamwork Award; improvements lead to radio repair success

By Justin Eimers, Tobyhanna Army Depot

Electronics Mechanic Brett Bellas connects an AN/ARC-231 radio to an automated test set for final testing at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa.

A team of electronics mechanics and engineers at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., has been recognized with a teamwork award for doubling repair capabilities and completing more than the scheduled radio workload.

The Flight Control Systems Branch was awarded a workload of 260 AN/ARC-231 and Receiver-Transmitter 1808A airborne radio systems in March 2013, a year and a half since the branch last worked them. Early in the program, parts supply issues pushed repairs behind schedule, requiring a strategy to meet the repair plan. Branch Chief John Stochla assembled a team to meet the challenges head-on and complete repairs on time.

"The bottom line is that we had to get it done," said Stochla. "We have the people with the technical expertise and motivation to complete a program like this and we welcomed the challenge."

The compact radio system supports airborne, multi-band, multi-mission, secure anti-jam voice, data and imagery transmission and provides network-capable communications requirements for the Department of Defense (DoD).

The team worked closely with depot engineers, and engineers and item managers from the U.S. Army Communications - Electronics Command (CECOM), to ensure processes and procedures were thoroughly planned out.

Lori Wall, production controller in the Production Management Directorate made sure the program was scheduled properly to complete all the radios by the end of September 2013. Electronics Engineer Carmen Trubia coordinated with the program office to correct parts issues by maintaining a close relationship with everyone involved the process.

The plan called for significant increases in production for the last six months of the program, scheduling more than 40 radios to be repaired versus the original plan of 20.

Gean Bechthold, Avionics Division chief, said the steep workload increase provided timely support to the warfighter, helping to maintain fleet readiness for Air Force and Army aircraft, and significant cost savings.

Team dedication resulted in savings for the DoD through improved techniques and Lean operations. Lean is a continuous process improvement program.

Adjusting the frequency modulation on the synthesizer circuit card kept repairs on schedule and saved more than $60,000 in circuit card replacement. This process was authorized by CECOM engineers during a visit to the branch.

The workload initially only included screening each radio without any repairs, but now that branch personnel were involved additional capabilities were needed: uploading, updating and modifying the software, and replacing circuit cards. The workload mission required an all-out effort to complete.

"I'm amazed at the work we accomplished," Stochla said. "At first it didn't seem possible, but the customer trusted in us to complete the radios on time despite falling behind early in the program. It was all a matter of establishing a goal without cutting corners and just continually striving to get things done."

Town Hall Awards Ceremony

On March 25, 2014, Gary Martin, deputy to the commanding general, Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) and Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent, CECOM, hosted a town hall and awards ceremony at CECOM headquarters. For editorial purposes, individual and service awards are available for public viewing on CECOM's Flickr site. https://www.flickr.com/photos/cecom/

Here are some of the highlighted team awards:

SEC Safety Award

Martin (left) presents the U.S. Army Safety Excellence Streamer to Calvin Simpson, Supervisory Security Specialist, Software Engineering Center (SEC), who accepted the award on behalf of the SEC. The SEC received the award for completing 12 consecutive months without an Army Class A or B accident attributed to human error and 100 percent of all assigned personnel completing the required Army safety training.

Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Team

Martin (far left) and Dent (far right) present the CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center Lean Six Sigma Core Team with Department of the Army Achievement Medals for Civilian Service. The team received the medals for their valuable contributions to the acquisition requirements package of the Lean Six Sigma project.

Audit Readiness Team

Martin (far left) and Dent (far right) present Toni Lopez, Janet Penaherrera, from the G-8, and Richard Albietz, Internal Review Office, (left to right) with a Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service. They received the award for their technical expertise and exemplary contributions to the audit readiness program and ensuring CECOM's compliance with the new Army financial improvement plan.

Army Reprogramming and Analysis Team

Martin (left) and Dent (right) present the CECOM Software Engineering Center's Army Reprogramming and Analysis Team with the Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service. The team received the medal for their combined efforts to improve the quality and timeliness of all electronic warfare, software rapid reprogramming and sustainment, threat analysis, infrastructure development and upgrade, and customer liaison activities.

HAIL & *farewell*

After years of dedicated federal service, some of our Communications-Electronics Command family members are retiring. It is sad to see them go, but let us all wish the following employees a happy and healthy retirement!

James W. Good
Logistics and Readiness Center
Communications Security Logistics Activity
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
April 30, 2014

Clarence R. Harrell Jr.
Logistics and Readiness Center
Fort Benning, Ga.
April 30, 2014

James D. Roberts
Logistics and Readiness Center
Fort Bragg, N.C.
April 30, 2014

Angelo A. Scribellito
Office of the G8
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.
April 30, 2014

Nancy J. Calderon
Logistics and Readiness Center
Communications Security Logistics Activity
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
May 3, 2014

Chief of Chaplains promotes power of prayer

By Alan Feiler, APG News staff writer

More than 300 attendees to the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) National Prayer Luncheon at Top of the Bay, March 19 listened to a message encouraging prayer and spiritual guidance during times of anxiety over personal and worldly matters. Army Chief of Chaplains Maj. Gen. Donald L. Rutherford assured APG Soldiers, civilians and contractors that they are making a difference regarding the strength of Army and its missions.

The program included remarks by Gary Martin, acting director of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM). Maj. Young Kim, CECOM Command Chaplain and the project officer for the luncheon program. Prayers for the nation, families and workforce were offered by Col. William Sean Lee, Maryland National Guard State Chaplain; Col. Jonas Vogelhut of Program Executive Office Command Control Communications Tactical (PEO C3T), and Maj. James Collins, APG installation deputy chaplain. Lt. Col. David Bowerman of the U.S. Army Public Health Command offered a Scripture reading and Col. Warline Richardson of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command introduced Rutherford. The APG Praise Band and Choir provided musical selections and Renesha Robinson of CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center, sang the National Anthem.

Rutherford talked about the "anxious times" we live in and how faith can provide the "survival skills" needed to overcome adversity. He alluded to Gen. George Washington who recognized the need for a faith-based Army as the Nation's first commander in chief in 1775.

(L-R)Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Donald L. Rutherford, U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains stands with CECOM Command Chaplain (Maj.) Kim Young at the Aberdeen Proving Ground National Prayer Luncheon held at the installation Wednesday, March 19, 2014. Rutherford delivered the keynote address and spoke of resiliency through faith and management of stress levels.

"What was going on in 1775 was that young patriot forces were going against the mighty British Empire," Rutherford said. "And Gen. Washington thought, For this to happen, we need chaplains onboard. "The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary, but especially so in times of public distress and danger,'" Rutherford quoted Washington.

"Everyone sometimes feels overwhelmed by the complexities of life," said Rutherford. "You have anxiety at work—promotion boards, retention boards, force reductions, personnel issues, being apart from your family, financial anxieties, the economy, security, education, it goes on and on. You have to look over your shoulder all the time. You never know what's next."

Rutherford's answer is finding the faith to overcome negative inclinations and develop the strength and resiliency to soldier on. Focusing on the positive and minimizing the negative is integral to inner strength and resolve.

Rutherford told audience members that as Soldiers and civilians, they are making a difference. "This is as important now as in any time," he said. "Our nation and our world needs all of the leadership—our collective leadership—and every good idea you have, and a thousand more. The challenges we face now are far reaching. So focus on the true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling and gracious, to make a difference to all of those we touch and teach every day."

CECOM
Wellness

Teamwork helps individuals discover healthy balance

By Jacqueline Boucher, Tobyhanna Army Depot

Diets and losing weight can be hard. If anyone needs a little nudge to get the scale moving in the right direction, Team Tobyhanna has a secret that's making ordinary people achieve remarkable results.

Dozens of determined Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., personnel have formed teams with names like Pudge Muffins, The Walking Dead Weight and Let's Get Waisted to participate in this year's Biggest Winner Health Challenge. Last year 379 people lost 1,836.6 pounds during the inaugural event. The healthy lifestyle program consists of three (12-week) challenges and is open to the work force — civilian, military and contract employees. Health and safety experts tailored the program to suit Tobyhanna personnel and set the ball in motion. The next phase will kick off April 24.

"Happy, healthy employees are more productive employees," said Janine Yablonski, industrial hygienist at the Occupational Health Clinic. "We all know the health of any business is directly related to the health and well-being of its personnel."

Joe-Lee Maitin, who works in the Public Works Directorate's Equipment and Supplies Division, was inspired by the fact that Tobyhanna thought it was important to put this program together and stand behind it. He was intrigued by the team concept offered by the Biggest Winner Health Challenge. Maitin found the team offered the support system he needed to stay motivated and focused. Within the last year he lost 47 pounds.

"My teammates introduced me to several opportunities available at the depot," said Maitin. The exercise classes helped me meet and exceed all my expectations — and they were free."

The Community Services Directorate offers a mixed bag of classes, equipment and fitness center locations for members of Team Tobyhanna looking to increase their activity level. In addition, the Post Restaurant has joined forces with the health clinic to expand their menu to include healthier food options.

"Healthier choices are what the customer is looking for these days," said George Bombar, business manager at the Post Restaurant. "For instance, we're offering more grilled items and using dry rubs instead of rich sauces." In addition, some fat free and low calorie items were added to the menu.

The healthier items are popular, according to Bombar. "We're selling more salads this year than we have in years past." Changes to the salad bar include more vegetables, granola and fruit mix, and different salad dressings.

"This is a self-guided challenge and we do as much as we can to make it fun," said Paula Mesaris, Industrial Risk Management Directorate Safety Division specialist, pointing out that losing weight is not the same for everyone. "Help is available to anyone who needs it."

Participants can learn to make healthy food choices with the help of a visiting nutritionist. Plus, there are dozens of weight loss tools available, including one that offers the opportunity to virtually walk to Fairbanks, Alaska.

An official weigh in will be held on the first and last day of each 12-week contest, according to Sheila Opsasnick, occupational health nurse at the Occupational Health Clinic. In addition, measurements will be recorded for height, body mass index, body fat percentage, blood pressure and waist circumference.

"Statistics are reported as a team only," Opsasnick said. "Individuals are not singled out for the world to see." The Biggest Winner is chosen based on the percentage of weight loss per team.

"I think the team concept is the key to success for this challenge," Mesaris said, adding that this year Team Tobyhanna will be rooting for all of The Phat Daddies, Twisted Sisters and Chubby Checkers as they set off on the losing track to claiming the Biggest Winner Health Challenge

Hazard and Mishap Reporting

By the CECOM Occupational Safety and Health Team

Hazard and Mishap (near misses, first aides and injuries) Reporting are an integral part of the Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) Safety program. By reporting all hazards and mishaps we are able to mitigate identified hazards, improve processes and ensure the safety of the CECOM team. To simplify the Hazard and Mishap Reporting process and to ensure that corrective action is implemented, the CECOM Directorate for Safety has developed a Hazard Reporting Tool and Mishap Reporting Tool. The tools are SharePoint based and allow CECOM personnel to report identified hazards and mishaps involving CECOM personnel (civilians, military, contractors and visitors).

The Hazard Reporting Tool will allow CECOM Safety to review and track hazards to completion. It provides a mechanism for all CECOM team members (anyone with CAC access) to view reported hazards, know where they are located, how they were controlled/ corrected and when the final corrective action was achieved.

The Hazard Reporting Tool is located on the CECOM Safety SharePoint site under OSH Tools; the same location as the CECOM Mishap Prevention Calendar and other helpful tools. The Link to the OSH Tools Site Hazard Reporting (under Tools) is:
https://cecom.aep.army.mil/cecom/home/Safety/osh2/default.aspx

The Hazard Reporting Process has several steps: Initial Report, Temporary Corrective Action(s), Safety Officer Review and Recommendations, Corrective Action Updates and the final Corrective Action. Each step is important, with the most important step being the Initial Report.

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE AND ELIMINATE THE HAZARD!

The 60 seconds spent correcting and/or reporting a hazard could keep a team member from being injured and put out of work for days or maybe even weeks.

The Mishap Reporting Tool is also available on SharePoint and is the next part of the reporting process. Generally a hazard is what leads to near misses (Incident where a hazard led to the mishap but no injury or property damage occurred), first aides and injuries. All CECOM Mishaps must be reported to your supervisor and/or Collateral Duty Safety Officer (CDSO)/CECOM Safety Manager immediately.

All mishaps must be reported in the Mishap Tool within 24 Hours of occurrence. CECOM Mishaps can only be entered into the Tool by a CECOM CDSO or a member of the CECOM OSH Team. If your organization does not have a CDSO, your Supervisor is responsible for reporting the mishap to Cindy Massengale 443-395-3569 or Bob McNabb 443-395-3568 to enter the Mishap into the Tool.

The Mishap Tool link is: Mishap Reporting Tool
(https://cecom.aep.army.mil/cecom/home/Safety/ce-mishaps/default.aspx)

Take a few minutes to view the site and the Hazard Tool and if you are a CDSO please make sure you have access to the Mishap Tool. Please contact a member of the CECOM OSH Team (Cindy Massengale or Bob McNabb) if you have access issues or additional questions.

Thank you for being part of the CECOM Safety Team!

By Keosha Pointer, G-1, CECOM

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. It's considered a nationwide campaign intended to raise awareness of the health and social problems that are associated with excessive alcohol assumption. Statistics show that 17.6 million people or one in every 12 adults suffers from alcohol abuse. More than 7 million children live in a household where at least one parent is dependent on or has abused alcohol.

Being diagnosed with alcohol abuse and alcoholism can destroy all aspects of an individual's life. Abuse over an extended period of time can lead to long-term serious health complications affecting every organ in the body, including the brain.

Alcohol abuse is a pattern of drinking that causes harm to one's health, interpersonal relationships, or ability to work including:

- Repeatedly neglecting responsibilities
- Alcohol use in dangerous situations
- Legal problems due to drinking
- Continued drinking despite relationship problems
- Drinking to de-stress

In the workplace:
In the workplace, the impact of alcoholism focuses on four major issues:

- Premature death/fatal accidents
- Injuries/accident rates
- Absenteeism/extra sick leave
- Loss of production/efficiency

Additional problem areas include:
- Poor decision making
- Lower morale of co-workers
- Disciplinary procedures

For more information on the CECOM wellness program, contact the program POCs: Keosha Pointer, 443-861-7915 (DSN: 848-7915); Tiffany Grimes, 443-861-7901 (DSN: 848-7901).

Understanding Alcohol and Alcoholism. (n.d.). Retrieved March 25, 2014, from National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, INC.: **http://www.ncadd.org/index.php/learn-about-alcohol.**

TSA opens its Pre✓™ program to DoD civilians

On April 15, 2014, the Transportation Security Authority (TSA) opened its expedited airport security screening program, Pre✓™ , to Department of Defense (DoD) civilians. TSA Pre✓™ allows participants to keep on their shoes, belt, and light jacket, and leave laptops and 3-1-1 compliant liquids in their carry-on bags when going through airport security. To participate, DoD civilians must opt-in to the program through the MilConnect website (www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect) and save their DoD ID number (10 digit number found on the back of their CAC) as the "Known Traveler Number" in their DTS profile. Civilians can also participate by using their DoD Id Number as the "Known Traveler Number" when making leisure travel reservations. The program is already open to service members (including Guard and Reservists) and members are not required to opt-in.
For more information, visit http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/news.cfm?ID=18

AROUND *the* COMMAND

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. – Gary Martin, deputy to the commanding general, Communications-Electronics Command (right) and Command Sgt. Maj. Kennis Dent, CECOM (left), present Cpt. Kevin Winfrey, former CECOM aide de camp (center), with the U.S. Meritorious Service Medal on March 20, 2014.

Fort Huachuca, Ariz. -- Col. Patrick Kerr, Information Systems Engineering Command (ISEC) commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Brenda Kadet, ISEC, alongside members of the Fort Huachuca community participated in the Walk of Respect held at the installation on April 1, 2014. The Walk of Respect kicked off Sexual Assault Awareness Month to promote the Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response and Prevention, or SHARP, program awareness and support.

Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa. - Col. Gerhard Schroter, Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD) commander (second from left) and Brig. Gen. Daniel Hughes, Program Executive Officer for Program Executive Office Command, Control, Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T) (third from left) listen to a briefing at TYAD during CECOM's PEO C3T Day held earlier in the month.

Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa. -- Mark Nizich, metal forming machine operator, uses a laser cutting machine to cut the base for a satellite communications antenna mount at Tobyhanna Army Depot. Army civilians in the Sheet Metal Fabrication Branch here manufacture and assemble metal components using state-of-the-art Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) and traditional metal manufacturing machinery. Employees perform precision laser cutting, metal shearing, stamping, punching, and profiling.

Airmen team with Army depot to learn Lean

By Jacqueline Boucher, Tobyhanna Army Depot

Air Force aircraft maintenance mechanics recently teamed up with Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD), Pa., employees to standardize processes for work performed on a satellite communications system and tactical radios.

Lean proponent and former TYAD employee Senior Master Sgt. John Sosko brought four reservists from Pope Army Airfield (AAF), N.C., to the installation to benchmark the depot's Lean Program and participate in two Lean events -- a value stream analysis and rapid improvement event.

Lean is a program of continuous improvement based on eliminating unnecessary steps in a process, such as rearranging an area to improve work flow, in order to improve efficiency. Value stream analysis is a program to identify what can be improved. A rapid improvement event targets a specific area to improve organization.

"It's always good to gain a fresh perspective and capture great ideas," said Sosko, Aircraft Maintenance Squadron assistant superintendent at Pope AAF. "Tobyhanna is at the forefront of Lean thinking and will always be our first choice to learn more about the program."

The Satellite Transportable Terminal (STT) is new workload currently being inducted. The Value Stream Analysis was used as a planning event to define, develop, and document a standard process. The mobile satellite system provides communications virtually anywhere.

"It was very rewarding for us to have the opportunity to work and interact directly with the Airmen," said John Scott, process improvement specialist in the Productivity, Improvement and Innovation Directorate's Process Improvement Division. "We learned a great deal from them."

According to Scott, the STT program is another opportunity to develop a process built around predictability, standardization, and visibility. "Putting quality products on the battlefield is our number one priority and who better to get feedback from but the users themselves."

Process improvement specialist Clark Ross explained that the AN/VRC-104(V)6 Joint Tactical Radio System is one of four joint (used by more than one military service) radios that are overhauled at Tobyhanna. The Rapid Improvement Event was held to adjust for an 83 percent average monthly increase in workload.

"Our goal was to standardize the overhaul process, document the standard process, and reduce over runs," said Ross. Furthermore, the team mapped the process and verified the processing time needed to complete the radios on schedule. Ross noted that lessons learned from this event will be applied to the other joint radios.

From left, Air Force reservists Technical Sgt. Ben McIlvain, Senior Master Sgt. John Sosko and Master Sgt. Steve Simkonis listen as Process Improvement Specialist John Scott identifies the line replaceable units in the Satellite Transportable Terminal (STT) during a Lean event. Staff Sgts. Anthony Queer and Dustin Brown team up with Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic Adam Wojcicki to learn how the STT is set up in the field. Wojcicki works in the Communications Systems Directorate's Satellite Communications Division.

Profile of a civilian deployment: Victor M. Lowe

By Alison Cheung, CECOM Headquarters

Communications-Electronics Command Force Protection Officer Victor Lowe

U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's (CECOM) Force Protection Officer, Victor Lowe, recently returned home after a one-year deployment in Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.

Lowe works in the Headquarters Protection and Operations Branch of CECOM's G3/5. It was working in this capacity he discovered what he considers to be the opportunity of a lifetime. An internet search led him to the Civilian Expeditionary Workforce program. Through the program's deployment, Lowe would serve his nation and support the troops in theater by working with the Army garrison commander's team in Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.

As the Director of the Force Protection, Lowe assisted with numerous tasks in support of the Army garrison commander and troops that needed supplies, equipment, and training Lowe's main duties included providing oversight to the training of over 6500 contractors deployed in theater on contingency drills in the case of an attack. The senior commander on Leatherneck considered personnel accountability a force protection issue. In response, Lowe developed a concept designed to assist in their accountability after a drill.

Lowe also served as the contracting officer representative for the camp's fire chief. In this capacity, he acted as the primary coordinator and integrator between the garrison commander and other first responders located on the base. He and his team provided support to their Marine Force Protection counterparts by requisitioning physical security equipment including flood lights and miles of concertina wire intended for use on the base perimeter.

"The experience was much more than I had expected," Lowe said. Even after 35 years of combined military and civilian service, he used one word to describe this experience abroad:

story continued on next page

"fulfilling." In efforts to support Operation Enduring Freedom, Lowe said he was constantly reminded of the urgency and importance of every incident and request while war, gun fire, risks and terrorist threats raged outside the camp.

The difference in work environment between his regular duty station at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and his deployed position in Afghanistan, was extreme and he needed to quickly adjust to the dramatic changes. "One of the things that united my team was the realization that we were doing serious work, we had to react with a sense of urgency to be effective, and we all wanted to make it back home alive," he emphasized.

His team consisted mainly of civilians with some contractors on board. However, his customers were the Soldiers and Marines also at Camp Leatherneck. The threat of his team not being able to complete their required tasks due to interference from insurgents was real. "Their need for support was always urgent and for immediate remediation of conflicts," he explained.

His technical capabilities from the CECOM G3/5 allowed him to contribute to force protection workgroups, planning sessions, managing operations, integrating safety precautions and more in order to mitigate threats and resolve conflicts. He ensured that all team members in the Force Protection Directorate had fully understood the mission. Effective communication was the key to efficiency in every incident, according to Lowe. Oftentimes the government mandates training for its workforce and many are reluctant to train, but Lowe stated that the constant practice and drills instilled confidence in his work that resulted in technical and tactical proficiency.

Lowe voiced a word of advice for others that wish to follow his footsteps: "Do the research and fully understand the environment and what you are getting yourself into. Understand the demands of the CEW program. This involves talking to others who have deployed, understanding the geopolitical environment of the conflict, and learning about the long hours and austere conditions."

Many times, not only are work environments different but lifestyle and living conditions vary drastically from home, he said. The normal luxuries of television, internet, privacy and sleep are likely to be unavailable in combat zones where the main priority is battlefield success. During his stay in Camp Leatherneck, Lowe witnessed three civilians arrive in theater, only to be returned home the very next day.

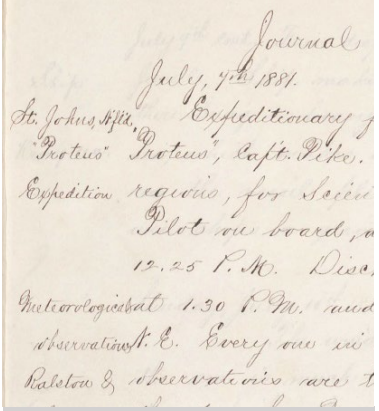
In Camp Leatherneck, Lowe was able to witness the end result of CECOM's mission to support the Army Materiel Command with warfighting equipment that was researched and developed by C4ISR. The most valuable experience he learned from this opportunity was the significance of teamwork and cooperation that allowed continued support for the Soldiers.

"Because of the close interaction with the Troops," Lowe said, "I witnessed the love and sacrifice each and every one of the Warfighters had for our great nation. I now have an even greater appreciation for our service because of the sacrifices they have made and continue to make on behalf of a grateful nation."

U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Garrett Sickich, a rifleman with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, holds security during reset training aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 18, 2014. The training was performed to allow the Marines to maintain proficiency by rehearsing drills that will aid in combat situations that develop during deployments. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Lance Cpl. Zachery B. Martin).

At a glance: The CECOM History Office

History Highlights



H.S. Gardiner Journal entry from Greely Polar Expedition of 1881

An example of the thousands of photographs in the History Office collection

By Susan Thompson, CECOM Command Historian

Do you ever wonder about what your office used to do and how it evolved? Interested in how the Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) has changed through the years? Need to find historic pictures of a communications system? Wish there were a way to capture the story of an important experience? There is a place within the command that can help you! The CECOM History Office team is located within the CECOM Public Affairs and Communications Media directorate, and our mission is to maintain the history, traditions, and lineage of the command.

The History Office maintains an archive of materials relating to CECOM and its predecessor organizations, going back to the Signal Corps Radio Labs. Our collections include thousands of photographs, newspapers, documents, books, technical manuals, posters and other materials relating to the history of the Command. The majority of the collection dates from after 1917, but we also have materials from as early as the 1830s. The archive is available for both government and private researchers, and we typically answer more the 350 research requests through the year.

In addition to maintaining a collection of historic documents relating to the command, the History Office also actively collects materials about the current organization and mission of CECOM. We are responsible for preparing the Annual Command History, as required under Army Regulation, as well as carrying out an oral history program. We also collect current pertinent documents that can help illustrate the CECOM mission for future generations. Part of this mission relies on the CECOM community contributing materials to the collection. We welcome donations of materials that pertain to the history of CECOM, and its past and present locations.

Part of our mission includes education and public outreach. We run a history blog (http://cecomhistorian.armylive.dodlive.mil) that features historic photographs and information about people, systems, and events that have shaped us as a command. The History Office provides support to public events such as Armed Forces Day, and are happy to support other events with history displays or presentations.

CECOM's history includes amazing inventions and events, many of which are well documented and which have changed the course of history, like developing RADAR and bouncing RADAR signals off the moon. The everyday contributions of the workforce matter, though, too, as we continue to support a war and transition to sustaining the next generation of communications equipment for an evolving Army.

Our ability to tell the stories of today for future generations depends on you. Think of the History Office when moving or cleaning out your files. Remind your leadership about the resources available, and remember to submit your Annual Command History report. Approximately 40 percent of questions we receive are internal to CECOM and the Army Materiel Command, but we can't provide information about material we never received. We're here to support the whole command, and enjoy telling the whole CECOM story!


DOTS and DASHES

A medium to spread cheer and carry useful and interesting items of information

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CECOM DOTS and DASHES

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The answer to "What's in the box?" is:

Morse code for - Speak Up! A Voice Unheard is an Army Defeated.

Relevance: This is the tag line for the U.S. Army's observance of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

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